BISS Biodiversity Information Science and Standards

Biodiversity Information Science and Standards 2: e25990
doi: 10.3897/biss.2.25990

OPEN ACCESS

Conference Abstract

The Living Atlases Community in Action: Sharing Species Pages through the Atlas of Living Costa Rica

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Received: 19 Apr 2018 | Published: 21 May 2018

Citation: Vargas M, Mora M, Ulate W, Cuadra J (2018) The Living Atlases Community in Action: Sharing Species Pages through the Atlas of Living Costa Rica. Biodiversity Information Science and Standards 2: e25990. https://doi.org/10.3897/biss.2.25990

Abstract

The Atlas of Living Costa Rica (http://www.crbio.cr/) is a biodiversity data portal, based on the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA), which provides integrated, free, and open access to data and information about Costa Rican biodiversity in order to support science, education, and conservation. It is managed by the Biodiversity Informatics Research Center (CRBio) and the National Biodiversity Institute (INBio).

Currently, the Atlas of Living Costa Rica includes nearly 8 million georeferenced species occurrence records, mediated by the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), which come from more than 900 databases and have been published by research centers in 36 countries. Half of those records are published by Costa Rican institutions. In addition, CRBio is making a special effort to enrich and share more than 5000 species pages, developed by INBio, about Costa Rican vertebrates, arthropods, molluscs, nematodes, plants and fungi. These pages contain information elements pertaining to, for instance, morphological descriptions, distribution, habitat, conservation status, management, nomenclature and multimedia. This effort is aligned with collaboration established by Costa Rica with other countries such as Spain, Mexico, Colombia and Brazil to standarize this type of information through Plinian Core (https://github.com/PlinianCore), a set of vocabulary terms that can be used to describe different aspects of biological species.

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The Biodiversity Information Explorer (BIE) is one of the modules made available by ALA which indexes taxonomic and species content and provides a search interface for it. We will present how CRBio is implementing BIE as part of the Atlas of Living Costa Rica in order to share all the information elements contained in the Costa Rican species pages.

Keywords

Atlas of Living Australia, living atlases, species pages, Costa Rica

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